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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANCE, SPAIN, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We enclose a copy of a statement which we have been instructed by our Governments to request should be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Bernard MERIMÉE
Permanent Representative of France

(Signed) Juan Antonio YANEZ-BARNUEVO
Permanent Representative of Spain

(Signed) David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom

(Signed) Madeleine ALBRIGHT
Permanent Representative of the United States

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by France, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States

The European Community and its member States and the United States have said in repeated statements that Serbs face a very clear choice. The Bosnian Serbs must sign the peace plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina and end all military attacks. If they do so, and they implement the plan in good faith, a gradual lifting of the measures imposed against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) will be possible. If they do not, the sanctions already imposed by the Security Council must be strengthened, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) effectively isolated.

This choice is set out in clear terms in the draft resolution now before the Security Council, which has the co-sponsorship of nine members of the Council, including France, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States. To take account of a Russian request, the resolution will not be adopted, as the Governments of these four countries had hoped, on 12 April. The four Governments believe that, if the Bosnian Serbs continue to refuse to sign the peace plan in all its parts, and do not cease their military attacks, the full range of economic sanctions envisaged in the draft resolution must be implemented.

The Governments of France, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States welcome the undertaking by the Government of the Russian Federation to intensify its efforts to secure the agreement of the Serbian party. But it is the firm view of the four Governments that, if the Bosnian Serb party do not sign the peace plan in all its parts and cease their military attacks, the resolution should be voted on - without a compliance period, given the delay in adoption - before the end of the current month. The four Governments will be working to ensure that this is achieved. One way or another the tightening of sanctions envisaged in the draft resolution must be achieved in the very near future if the Serbs fail to respond to the chance that has now been given.